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UNIVERSITY LECTURER SERIES

"Interfacial Nucleic Acid Chemistry: HIV-1 RNA - Peptide Interactions Studied by Acoustic Network Analysis"

Professor Michael Thompson
Department of Chemistry
University of Toronto

Friday October 17, 1997
Room H-1070, 2:15 pm

Open to the general public

Concordia University
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Michael Thompson received his BSc (Hons) in Chemistry from the University of Wales in 1966. In 1970, he obtained a PhD in Analytical Chemistry from McMaster University under the supervision of Prof. A. Corsini. After Postdoctoral studies at the University College of Swansea, Dr. Thompson joined the University of Technology in Loughborough, UK in 1971 as a Lecturer in Instrumental Analysis. In 1975, he returned to Canada and joined the Department of Chemistry at the University of Toronto as an Assistant Professor of Analytical Chemistry. In 1982, he was made a Full Professor of that Department.

Professor Thompson is the author of more than 150 research publications, 3 books and 8 patents from novel developments in his laboratories. His research efforts are well-funded through diverse sources, including both government and industrial sources, with grant totals approaching $400,000 in 1996. He is an editor of the *Canadian Journal of Chemistry*, a fellow of the Canadian Institute of Chemistry since 1980 and has been awarded the Fisher Award by the Canadian Society of Chemistry in 1989. This University Lectureship is the sixth Named Lectureship bestowed on our speaker.

Professor Thompson must be considered Canada's foremost authority in the field of chemical sensors. His interests are diverse in this area, although much research has been directed at the development of acoustic wave sensors. These have been used to detect nucleic acid hybridization, both DNA and RNA-protein interactions, and peptide and drug binding. He is also interested in the application of artificial neural networks for the analysis of the various components that comprise a sensor signal. His seminar at Concordia will combine both of these areas of research into the investigation of HIV-1 m-RNA binding to peptides.